

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please cancel the present Abstract and substitute the following for it:

A method of identifying a compound with efficacy in the treatment of chronic inflammatory disease by testing the compound for an ability to selectively inhibit the ability of T_{ck} cells to induce pro-inflammatory cytokine release from a monocyte is disclosed. The method includes pre-incubating T_{ck} cells with a compound to be tested, optionally resuspending the T_{ck} cells in the absence of the test compound, co-culturing the T_{ck} cells with monocytes, and assaying for the production of pro-inflammatory cytokines by the monocytes. The T_{ck} cells are produced by incubating a population of T cells with one or more cytokines or the T_{ck} cells are isolated from synovial tissue. The T_{ck} cells have not been contacted with an anti-CD3 antibody. The ability to selectively inhibit cytokine release indicates that the compound has efficacy in the treatment of chronic inflammatory disease.